

**TOWN OF PALISADE, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-12**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF PALISADE, COLORADO,
AMENDING CHAPTER 8, ARTICLE I OF THE PALISADE MUNICIPAL
CODE ENACTING REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF
ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLES, ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES,
LOW-POWERED SCOOTERS, AND OTHER UNCLASSIFIED
MOTORIZED MOBILITY DEVICES WITHIN THE TOWN.**

WHEREAS, the Town of Palisade ("Palisade" or the "Town") is a Colorado municipality organized pursuant to Title 31 of the Colorado Revised Statutes and with the authority set forth therein; and

WHEREAS, Article I of Chapter 8 of the Palisade Municipal Code (the "Code") adopted the Model Traffic Code, 2020 Edition; and

WHEREAS, Section 8-4 of the Code includes additions and modifications to the Model Traffic Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that the increasing use of electrical assisted bicycles, electric motorcycles, low-power scooters, and other unclassified motorized mobility devices has created public safety concerns involving pedestrians, motorists, and users of public parks and trails; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly has established classifications and operational requirements for electrical assisted bicycles pursuant to C.R.S. § 42-1-102 and C.R.S. § 42-4-1412 and authorizes local governments to regulate the operation of such devices within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to promote safe transportation options while protecting public safety and preserving the use and enjoyment of sidewalks, parks, trails, and public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to clarify the distinction between lawful electrical assisted bicycles, electric motorcycles, and other unclassified mobility devices; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds and determines that it is in the interest of the Town to update and amend the Code to regulate the operation of electrical assisted bicycles, electric motorcycles, low-powered scooters, and other unclassified motorized mobility devices within the Town as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF PALISADE, COLORADO THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Article I of Chapter 8 of the Palisade Municipal Code is hereby amended by enacting Section 8-16 to Article I as follows:

Sec. 8-16. - Operation of electrical assisted bicycles, electric scooters, low-powered gas scooters, electric motorcycles, and other unclassified motorized mobility devices.

The purpose of this section is to promote the safe operation of electrical assisted bicycles; protect pedestrians and other users of public spaces; establish reasonable operating requirements within the Town of Palisade; and clarify the distinction between lawful electrical assisted bicycles, electric motorcycles, low-powered gas scooters, and unclassified motorized mobility devices.

(1) Definitions:

- a. *Electrical assisted bicycle (E-Bike)* is a vehicle as defined in C.R.S. § 42-1-102(28.5) that:
 - i. Has two or three wheels;
 - ii. Has fully operable pedals;
 - iii. Is equipped with an electric motor of not more than seven hundred fifty (750) watts; and
 - iv. Falls within one of the following classifications:
 1. Class 1: Pedal-assist only, assistance ceases at twenty (20) miles per hour.
 2. Class 2: Equipped with a throttle and assistance ceases at twenty (20) miles per hour.
 3. Class 3: Pedal-assist only, assistance ceases at twenty-eight (28) miles per hour and is equipped with a speedometer.
- b. *Electric motorcycle (E-Moto)* is any electric-powered vehicle that:
 - i. Exceeds seven hundred fifty (750) watts;
 - ii. Lacks fully operable pedals; or
 - iii. Otherwise meets the definition of a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or unclassified motor vehicle under Colorado law.
- c. *Electric scooter (E-Scooter)* is a device that:
 - i. Weighs less than 100 pounds;
 - ii. Is equipped with handlebars and an electric motor;
 - iii. Is powered by an electric motor, and
 - iv. Has a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the motor.
- d. *Low-power scooter* means a self-propelled vehicle with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, no manual clutch and either of the following:
 - i. Cylinder capacity not exceeding 50 cubic centimeters if powered by internal combustion; or
 - ii. Wattage not exceeding 4,476 if powered by electricity.
 1. The term "low-power scooter" shall not include a toy vehicle, bicycle, electrical assisted bicycle, electric scooter, wheelchair, or any device designed to assist people with mobility

impairments who use pedestrian rights-of-way.

- e. *Unclassified motorized mobility devices* include other devices which do not otherwise fit the definitions of standard motor vehicles, motorcycles, low-power scooters, electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD), or motorized wheelchairs and devices that are not otherwise addressed in Section 8.4 of the Code.
- f. *Multi-use path* is any paved or designated pathway intended for use by pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized users.

(2) Authorized Operation of Electric Bikes (E-Bikes)

- a. Class 1 and Class 2 E-Bikes may be operated:
 - i. On public streets;
 - ii. In bicycle lanes;
 - iii. On designated multi-use paths; and
 - iv. In parks and recreational areas where bicycles are permitted.
- b. Class 3 E-Bikes may be operated:
 - i. On public streets;
 - ii. In bicycle lanes; and
 - iii. On designated roadways where bicycles are permitted.
- c. Class 3 E-Bikes shall not be operated on:
 - i. Sidewalks within the Town;
 - ii. Designated pedestrian-only paths; and
 - iii. Any trail or pathway specifically posted prohibiting Class 3 E-Bikes.
- b. Sidewalk and Downtown Operations
 - i. No person shall operate an E-Bike on any sidewalk or multi-use path at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour.
 - ii. Within designated downtown business districts, operators shall reduce speed to a reasonable and prudent speed when pedestrians are present and shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at all times.

(3) Prohibited Operation of Electric Motorcycles (E-Motos), Low-Powered Scooters (Moped).

- a. No person shall operate an electric motorcycle or low-powered scooter:
 - i. On all sidewalks;
 - ii. On bicycle paths;
 - iii. On multi-use trails;
 - iv. In public parks;
 - v. On school grounds; or
 - vi. On any public property where motor vehicles are prohibited.

- b. Nothing herein prohibits lawful operation on public streets when the vehicle is properly licensed, registered, insured, and operated in accordance with Colorado law.

(4) Prohibited Operation of Unclassified Motorized Mobility Devices.

- a. No person shall operate an unclassified motorized mobility device:
 - i. On sidewalks not located in a residential area;
 - ii. On any roadway except to cross another roadway or highway;
 - iii. On multi-use trails;
 - iv. On bicycle paths;
 - v. In public parks;
 - vi. On school grounds; and
 - vii. At a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour.

(5) Reckless or Unsafe Operation

- a. No person shall operate any E-Bike or electric mobility device in a manner that:
 - i. Endangers any person or property;
 - ii. Exceeds reasonable speed for conditions;
 - iii. Performs wheelies, jumps, racing, or stunt maneuvers upon public streets, sidewalks, parks, or trails;
 - iv. Weaves recklessly through pedestrian traffic;
 - v. Carries passengers unless the device is specifically designed for passengers; or
 - vi. Fails to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

(6) Age and Helmet Requirements

- a. Operators of Class 3 E-Bikes shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- b. Persons under eighteen (18) years of age operating a Class 3 E-Bike shall wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet.

(7) Required Equipment

- a. All E-Bikes operated within the Town during hours of darkness shall be equipped with:
 - i. A white front light visible from at least five hundred (500) feet;
 - ii. A red rear reflector or rear light visible from at least five hundred (500) feet; and
 - iii. Operational brakes capable of making a controlled stop.
- b. Beginning January 1, 2027, all E-Bikes shall bear a manufacturer label indicating:
 - i. Classification;
 - ii. Top assisted speed; and

iii. Motor wattage in accordance with Colorado law.

(8) Enforcement and Penalties

- a. Any person violating the provisions of this section may be subject to:
 - iv. For a first offense, written warning or municipal citation.
 - v. For a second offense within a twelve (12) month period, a municipal citation and fine not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
 - vi. For third and subsequent offenses within a twelve (12) month period, a municipal citation and fine not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00).
 - vii. For juveniles, an officer may require parent or guardian notification and may issue educational materials regarding safe operation.

(9) Authority of the Chief of Police

- a. The Chief of Police or designee is authorized to:
 - i. Designate areas where E-Bikes may be temporarily restricted due to special events or public safety concerns;
 - ii. Install or recommend signage restricting operation where necessary; and
 - iii. Conduct public education campaigns regarding E-Bike laws and safety requirements.

Section 3. This ordinance shall become effective on _____, 2026.

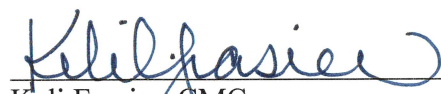
INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, APPROVED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED BY
TITLE, at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Palisade, Colorado held on July 28, 2026.

TOWN OF PALISADE, COLORADO

By: _____


Greg Mikolai, Mayor

ATTEST:


Keli Frasier, CMC
Town Clerk

